

**Proposed Amendment to the December 2012
Butte Area One Final Restoration Plan
Sec. 3.2.7 on Funding of Small Projects**

3.2.7 Small/Miscellaneous Projects (p. 32) – proposed language

The *December 2012 Butte Area One Final Restoration Plan* allocates \$1 million toward implementing future small projects and specifies a maximum amount of funding for any small project of \$100,000. Eligible types of small projects include mine waste removal, mine waste area improvements, revegetation, stream restoration, municipal water system improvements, storm water, education or research projects that are specific to and can benefit from restoration of Butte area natural resources, or recreation projects that will provide or enhance public hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, or hiking opportunities.

Small project proposals will be solicited and funded on an annual basis. Project solicitation will occur in the fall and funding decisions will be made in the spring of each year to allow for project implementation during the construction season. Beginning in the fall of 2014, the Butte Natural Resource Damage Restoration Council (BNRC), with assistance from the NRDP, will host an outreach workshop and make a call for small project proposals from the public. The NRDP, in consultation with the BNRC, will first screen each proposal to assure that it meets the legal threshold of restoring or replacing the injured natural resources of the Butte Area One site, namely groundwater and the aquatic resources of Butte Area One, and assure that it does not unduly conflict, duplicate, or overlap with other restoration and remediation projects. The BNRC and NRDP will then evaluate the eligible funding proposals using the evaluation criteria specified in the *March 2012 Butte Area One Final Restoration Process Planning*

Document. Following consideration of input from the public and the NRDP, the BNRC will decide on its funding recommendations for small projects.

The BNRC's funding recommendations, as well as input from the public and NRDP on those recommendations, will be the subject of consideration by the Trustee Restoration Council. The Governor will make the final funding decision. Opportunities for public comment on the funding of small projects will be provided at BNRC and Trustee Restoration Council meetings. The public notice for each of these meetings will identify the small projects to be considered at these meetings and will be issued at least 10 days in advance of each meeting.

The consideration of small projects for funding may continue on an annual basis through 2016, by which time all of the money in this account should be spent or allocated to specific projects. A match of funds would be strongly encouraged for this small project funding process.

3.2.7 Small/Miscellaneous Projects (p. 32) – existing language

The BNRC Restoration Recommendation would allocate \$1 million toward implementing future small/miscellaneous projects. The maximum amount of funding for any small project would be \$100,000. Beginning in the spring of 2013, the BNRC would make a call for project ideas from the public and ideas submitted would be evaluated by the BNRC and NRDP staff. Consideration of such projects may continue through 2016 by which time all of the money in this account should be spent or allocated to specific projects. A match of funds would be strongly encouraged under this alternative. At this point, none of the public restoration project ideas are specifically earmarked to receive funding through the small/miscellaneous project reserve.